

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION

77 74 20 A 621

January 7, 2009

Honorable Mary E. Peters Secretary of Transportation U.S. Dept. of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Continuation of Alaska Airlines' Essential Air Service at Cordova, Gustavus, Petersburg, Wrangell, and Yakutat, Alaska. Docket OST-1998-4899

Dear Secretary Peters,

I am writing in support of the continuation of Alaska Airlines' essential air service to Petersburg, Alaska. As the largest employer and air freight customer in Petersburg, we are critically aware of the continued need for the jet service that Alaska Airline has provided to this community for the past thirty years.

The seafood industry is the economic engine of Petersburg. Moving products to markets, transporting employees and connecting fishermen with needed parts is critical to the economic well being of our company and this community. The movement of passengers, products, freight and mail is a necessity that allows us to be competitive. With the service that Alaska Airlines provides to Petersburg, we can easily connect to other flights throughout Alaska and to the lower 48 states.

Alaska Airlines has demonstrated their commitment to serving Southeast Alaska and made major investments to improve service. They have extensive experience meeting the challenging weather conditions found in Alaska and have invested in navigation technology to provide better reliability during inclement weather. They have significantly upgraded their fleet of combination aircraft that are capable of both freight and passenger needs. This has resulted in improved capacity, comfort and reliability.

We urge you to continue Alaska Airlines' essential air service in Southeast Alaska. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kris Norosz

Government Affairs

cc: Michael W. Reynolds, Acting Assistant Secretary for Aviation & International Affairs Dennis J. DeVany, Chief, EAS and Domestic Analysis

#### **PETERSBURG FISHERIES**



January 7, 2009

# **Hames Corporation**

The Honorable Mary E. Peters, Secretary of Transportation U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

RE:

Continuation of Alaska Airlines Essential Air Service (EAS) at Cordova, Gustavus, Petersburg, Wrangell and Yakutat, Alaska OST-1998-4899

**Dear Secretary Peters:** 

I am writing to express my strong support for the selection of Alaska Airlines to continue providing essential air service to the Southeast (SE) region of Alaska. Though Sitka, the community I live in, is not a part of EAS, this whole region is affected by this extremely valuable service that Alaska Airlines ties together. EAS, as the name implies, is indeed essential and critical for access that contributes to our overall economic well being.

Alaska's current pattern of service, using jet aircraft, meets crucial needs that would be difficult, if not impossible to meet with any other type of service or aircraft type.

Alaska's service connects SE Alaska passengers to one or more major communities of interest, with single plane service to Anchorage, Juneau, Ketchikan or Seattle. From these hubs, the EAS communities can access the airline's extensive route system and benefit from its far reaching marketing relationships.

Alaska's service also provides essential freight and mail capacity necessary to meet many of these communities' daily necessities. Alaska has demonstrated its commitment to meet the airfreight needs of the communities in the state by investing in the first ever fleet of 737-400 combi aircraft. These modern 737's replaced the older 737-200 combi aircraft in Alaska's fleet and provide improved access, capacity and comfort for airline passengers in SE Alaska.

In addition, Alaska's investment in required navigation performance (RNP) flight technology allows access to airports in SE Alaska during periods of inclement weather, which enhances the reliability of the airline's service.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge DOT to select Alaska Airlines to continue providing essential air service to SE Alaska, as the airline has successfully done the last thirty years.

Sincerely,

Roger L. Hames

**President** 

Cc: Michael W. Reynolds, Acting Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs Dennis J. DeVany, Chief, EAS and Domestic Analysis



### SITKA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

329 Harbor Drive, Suite 212 \* Sitka, Alaska 99835 \* (907) 747-2660 \* fax (907) 747-7688 \* www.sitka.net

January 8, 2009

Dennis J. DeVany, Chief, EAS and Domestic Analysis U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Continuation of Alaska Airlines' Essential Air Service at Cordova, Gustavus, Petersburg, Wrangell, and Yakutat, Alaska, Docket OST-1998-4899

**Dear Secretary Peters:** 

This letter is to express strong support for the selection of Alaska Airlines to continue to provide essential air service to the above mentioned communities. The jet service Alaska currently provides is critical for the continued access and economic well being of Southeast Alaska.

Alaska's current pattern of service – using jet aircraft – meets crucial needs that would be difficult, if not impossible, to meet with any other type of service or aircraft type:

- Alaska's service connects Southeast Alaska passengers to one or more major communities
  of interest, with single-plane service to Anchorage, Juneau, Ketchikan or Seattle. From
  these hubs, our community can access the airline's extensive route system and benefit from
  its far-reaching marketing relationships.
- Alaska's service provides essential cargo (freight and mail) capacity necessary to meet many of our community's daily necessities. Alaska has demonstrated its commitment to meet the airfreight needs of the communities in the state by investing in the first-ever fleet of 737-400 combination aircraft. These more modern 737s replaced the older 737-200 combi aircraft in Alaska's fleet and provide improved access, capacity and comfort for airline passengers in Southeast Alaska.
- Alaska's investment in required navigation performance (RNP) flight technology allows
  access to airports in Southeast Alaska during periods of inclement weather, which enhances
  the reliability of the airline's service to our community.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge DOT to select Alaska Airlines to continue to provide essential air service to Southeast Alaska, as the airline has successfully done for the last thirty years.

Sinderely.

Garry White

**Executive Director** 

cc: Mary E. Peters, Secretary of Transportation

Michael W. Reynolds, Acting Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs



January 12, 2009

Hon. Mary E. Peters
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Continuation of Alaska Airlines' Essential Air Service at Cordova, Gustavus, Petersburg, Wrangell, and Yakutat, Alaska, Docket OST-1998-4899

**Dear Secretary Peters:** 

I am writing to express strong support for Alaska Airlines being authorized to continue to provide essential air service to the above-referenced communities. Ketchikan, and the entire region of Southeast Alaska, depend upon Alaska Airline's jet service both for access as well as for our economic well-being.

Alaska's current pattern of service – using jet aircraft – meets crucial needs that would be difficult, if not impossible, to meet with any other type of service or aircraft type:

- Alaska's service connects Southeast Alaska passengers to one or more major communities of interest, with single-plane service to Anchorage, Juneau, Ketchikan or Seattle. From these hubs, people from Ketchikan can access the airline's extensive route system and benefit from its far-reaching marketing relationships.
- Due in large part to its provision of essential air service, Alaska Airlines provides crucial cargo capacity necessary to meet many of our community's daily necessities. Alaska has demonstrated its commitment to meet the airfreight needs of the communities in the state by investing in the first-ever fleet of 737-400 combination aircraft to replace older 737-200 aircraft. This resulted in improved capacity for both passengers and freight, and was of particular significance to our fishing industry.
- Alaska's investment in required navigation performance (RNP) flight technology allows access to airports in Southeast Alaska during periods of inclement weather, which enhances the reliability of the airline's service to our community.

Hon. Mary E. Peters January 12, 2009 Page 2

I therefore respectfully urge the Department to select Alaska Airlines to continue to provide essential air service to Southeast Alaska, as the airline has successfully done for the last thirty years.

Sincerely,

Bob Weinstein

Mayor

cc: Michael W. Reynolds, Acting Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs

Dennis J. DeVany, Chief, EAS and Domestic Analysis

## **ALPINE DIESEL**

Jerry Blackler P.O. Box 605 Cordova, AK 99574-0605

907-424-7664 Telephone 907-424-7564 Fax docblack@ak.net

January 17, 2008

The Honorable Mary E. Peters Secretary, Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

RE: Docket OST-1998-4899

Dear Secretary Peters,

This letter is written to express strong support for the continuation of Alaska Airlines to provide daily service to the community of Cordova Alaska.

As a business in Cordova that works side by side with the fishing industry it is critical that I have the option to have freight brought in by Alaska Airlines on a daily basis. The fishing fleet relies on my service to keep their vessels running and more times than not I have to order parts by gold-streak in order to get the vessel back on the fishing grounds.

Since we do not have a highway system into Cordova it is vital to the economy of the community to maintain the daily flights to & from Cordova.

Sincerely,

Jerry Blachler Alpine Diesel

JB:vb

Cc: Michael Reynolds
Dennis DeVany
Senator Lisa Murkowski
Senator Mark Begich
Congressman Don Young

PO BOX 86 Cordova, Alaska 99574 January 19, 2009

Dennis DeVany Chief, EAS and Domestic Analysis 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

RE: Continuation of Alaska Airlines Essential Air Service at Cordova, Alaska, Docket OST-1998-4899

#### Dear Mr. DeVany:

As residents of Cordova for the past almost 40 years, we urge you to support the selection of Alaska Airlines for continued air service to our community. The jet service provides land-locked Cordova with access to Anchorage and beyond for medical services that are very limited in our town.

Cordova's main industry is commercial fishing and this is becoming more and more dependent upon regularly scheduled jet service for getting fresh fish to markets.

We are really dependent upon Alaska Airlines service for travel, freight, mail, etc. It is our transportation lifeline to the "outside."

Jerry and Trudy Bendzak

Jerry and Trudy Bendzak

From: Kathy Zamudio 600 Birch Street Box 192 Cordova, Alaska 99574

Reference Docket #OST-1998-4899

To:

Dennis DeVany, Chief, EAS and Domestic Analysis Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590

I am writing in support of Alaska Airlines, to continue their services in Cordova, Alaska at the level to which we have become accustomed to.

My family and I all have Alaska Airlines frequent flyer accounts. In the three years we have lived in Cordova, we have all used Alaska Airlines for various reasons; doctor appointments, school functions, work, shopping trips to Anchorage, and vacations.

Although I have only lived in Cordova for three years, I have lived in Alaska for over 20 years and know what it is like to live in a community without the services of Alaska Airlines.

Alaska Airlines, please continue your services to and from Cordova. It really makes a difference in the quality of life here in Cordova.

Thank you, Kathy Zamudio P.O. Box 192

Kathy Bamalio Cordova, Alaska 99574

(907) 424-3111